hospital at Madanapalle at any time before? In view of the healthy climatic conditions prevailing at Madanapalle, is it not desirable to start a medical college at Madanapalle?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The bed-strength of different hospitals is increased from time to time according to the needs of the locality."

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" In view of the fact that there is a big hospital at Kozhikode, will the Government consider the question of starting a medical college for Kerala at Kozhikode?"

Correspondence with the Union Government re Preventive Detention Act.

* 277 Q.—SRI K. KRISHNA RAO : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Union Government have addressed the State Government to offer their views about the intended extension of the period of operation of the Preventive Detention Act; and

(*b*) whether the Government have addressed the Union Government about their opinion on the working of the Act in this State, and if so, the gist of their letter to the Union Government?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" There are two questions referring to the same subject. The one is put by Sri K. Krishna Rao and the other by Sri K. C. Gopalan Unni. I am answering both at the same time.

" (*a*) & (*b*) Proposals for legislation are generally referred by the Government of India to all State Governments and this procedure was followed in this case also. Disclosure of confidential exchanges of opinion can do no good to anyone, but the fact remains that we have no one under preventive detention in this State to-day, except one blackmarketeer, who also, I think, was ordered to be released last week as sufficiently cured. I could easily disclose all the correspondence asked for in the question but for the fact that it would be laying down a wrong precedent in respect of confidential exchanges of tentative opinions and doubts between one Government and another."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—" May I know whether this Government is aware of the fact that the Hon. Minister for Home Affairs, while introducing the Bill for extending the life of the Preventive Detention Act in the Parliament at Delhi, said that the State Governments had been consulted in the matter and that they had all agreed that the Act should be extended for some time to come? May I know why this Government had agreed before consulting this House which is having its sitting now?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, the answer I have already given is confirmed by what the hon. Member

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has said about the speech of the Hon. Mr. Katju while introducing the measure in the Parliament at Delhi. As regards agreement, consultation and so on, I must say once and for all that we trust our people but at the same time we want to keep our powder dry.''

SRI C. V. K. RAO :—'' Will the Hon. Chief Minister convey to the Union Government that it is the opinion of hon. Members of this House that this Preventive Detention Act is a drastic measure giving powers to the executive to curtail individual liberties of persons and that it should be removed from the Statute Book? ''

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—'' Even without our informing the Hon. Minister at Delhi, he knows that those who were detained under the Act do not like the Act.''

SRI P. RAMAMURTHI :—'' In view of the fact that this is a matter which affects the liberties of the people, will the Government consider it necessary to disclose the information they have got and consult the House on the same? ''

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—'' Sir, the consultations in this matter are between one Government and another. I do not think it is the practice to put such references before the whole House. But there are certain cases where it would be relevant to ascertain the opinion of the House and in those cases, it will be placed before the House.''

SRI VAVILALA GOPALAKRISHNAIAH :—'' ఈ Preventive Detention వల్ల బాధపడినవారెవ్వరు దీనిని కోరరు. మంత్రి కూడా యీ Preventive Detention లో వున్నవారేకదా?''.

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—'' మీరు నిదానంగా మాట్లాడితే, చెప్పగలను.''

Scales of pay of the employees of local bodies.

* 278 Q.—SRI S. NARAYANAPPA : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state— 10-50 a.m.

(a) whether any representations were received regarding the enhancement of the scales of salaries of employees of local bodies to the level of the scales of similar employees in Revenue department of Government; and

(b) if so, what steps the Government have taken in the matter?

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—'' (a) Yes.

'' (b) Government rejected the request.''

SRI S. NARAYANAPPA :—'' May I know whether the Hon. Minister will be pleased to state whether the employees in the local boards have less work and less responsibility than the employees in the Revenue department, and whether he is going to consider the question of equalization of their salaries? ''